

Application No.: 10/735,835Docket No.: 2038-316AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A packaged assembly, comprising

a package formed of a flexible sheet in a rectangular hexahedron having a top wall, a bottom wall, and first and second side walls being opposed to each other [[,]] and connecting the top and bottom walls, said package further comprising a handle at the top wall; and

a plurality of disposable diapers, each including a main body having an absorbent core attached thereto and respective waist-surrounding peripheral end portions of front and rear waist regions free [[from]] of the absorbent core, said diapers being packed within said package so that said disposable diapers are stacked one upon another in a vertical direction between said top and bottom walls of said package with said front and rear waist regions ~~being opposed to each other~~ in each of the diapers being placed one atop another; ~~said packaged assembly being further comprising:~~

wherein

said diapers comprise ~~package containing therein~~ first diapers each having said waist-surrounding peripheral end portions of the respective waist regions facing to said first side wall of said package and second diapers each having said waist-surrounding peripheral end portions of the respective waist regions facing to said second side wall of said package; and

said plurality of diapers are stacked in said vertical direction of said package to constitute at least one column which extends from the top wall to the bottom wall and a group in which the number of said first diapers is substantially equal to the number of said second diapers.

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2. (currently amended) The packaged assembly according to [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein a difference between the number of said first diapers and the number of said second diapers is in a range of $0 - \pm 3$.

3. (currently amended) The packaged assembly according to [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said ~~groups of~~ at least one column includes two or more columns [[are]] arranged between said first and second side walls within said package.

4. (currently amended) The packaged assembly according to [[Claim]] claim 1, wherein said ~~groups of~~ at least one column includes two or more columns [[are]] packed side by side within said package.

5. (new) The packaged assembly according to claim 4, wherein said diapers are stored in said each of said columns in a compressed state between said top and bottom walls of said package.

6. (new) The packaged assembly according to claim 4, wherein four of said columns are packed side by side within said package.

7. (new) A package of disposable diapers, comprising:
a flexible container comprising a top wall, a bottom wall, and first and second opposing side walls that connect the top and bottom walls, said container further comprising a handle at the top wall; and

a plurality of disposable diapers packed within said container, each of said diapers including front and rear waist regions, which define together a waist hole, and a crotch region extending between said front and rear waist regions and being opposed to the waist opening;

wherein

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said diapers are stacked one upon another, with said front and rear waist regions of each of the diapers being placed one atop another, to define at least one column of diapers extending in a vertical direction from said top wall to said bottom wall;

said diapers comprise first diapers having the waist holes facing the first side wall and second diapers having the waist holes facing the second side wall, wherein said first and second diapers are alternately arranged in said column.

8. (new) The package of claim 7, wherein said container has a shape of a substantially rectangular hexahedron having adjacent surfaces being substantially orthogonal with each other.

9. (new) The package of claim 7, wherein each of said diapers comprises a liquid-pervious topsheet, a liquid-impervious backsheet and a liquid-absorbent core interposed between said topsheet and backsheet and extending between said front and rear waist regions.

10. (new) The package of claim 7, wherein a difference between a number of said first diapers and a number of said second diapers in said column is in a range of 0 - 3.

11. (new) The package of claim 7, comprising at least two said columns being placed side by side.

12. (new) The package of claim 11, comprising four said columns.

13. (new) The package according to claim 12, wherein each of said diapers is a pants-type diaper having transversely opposite lateral portions of the front and rear waist regions being permanently attached to each other.

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14. (new) The package of claim 7, wherein said diapers are stored in said column in a compressed state between said top and bottom walls of said container.